

**Town of Marshville
Town Council Meeting
Monday, March 21, 2011 at 7:00 PM
Marshville Town Hall – 201 W. Main St.**

REGULAR MEETING

Present: Mayor Deese, MPT Margaret Bivens, CM Ned Beachum, CM Dora Bridget, CM Matthew Jefferson, TM Radford Thomas, C/FO Tonya Johnson, PD Alan Thifault, DPW Bivens Steele, Chief Matt Tarlton, Attorney Bobby Griffin, and Editor John Edmondson of *The Home News*

Open/Welcome/Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was opened at 7:05 p.m. by Mayor Deese. He welcomed everyone in attendance before giving the invocation. All gave the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public comments: Limited to 2 minutes per person, 10 minutes total, if any

Ms. Patricia Rorie of 2117 Pleasant Knoll Lane, Monroe, NC spoke regarding the property at 612 Sunset Drive in Marshville. The property is an “active case” on the Town’s code enforcement list. Ms. Rorie indicated that work will begin on the property within the next couple of weeks.

DPW Bivens Steele introduced Mr. James Clyburn. Mr. Clyburn is the recently hired part time public works employee. Mr. Clyburn expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to work for the Town of Marshville.

Adopt Agenda

TM Thomas requested that a motion be made to add to the agenda as Item #7 consideration and approval of Resolution 2011-02 CSX Facility Encroachment Agreement. A motion was made by CM Beachum and seconded by MPT Bivens to add as Item #7 consideration and approval of Resolution 2011-02 CSX Facility Encroachment Agreement. Vote: All ayes

CM Matthew Jefferson made a motion to add as Item #8 a discussion regarding a Veterans’ Day event. The motion was seconded by CM Bridget. Vote: All ayes

A motion to adopt the agenda with the added items was made by MPT Bivens, and seconded by CM Bridget. Vote: All ayes

Consent Agenda Items:

- a. Receive Budget Report
- b. Approve Minutes of September 7, 2010

A motion to adopt the consent agenda as received was made by CM Bridget, and seconded by CM Beachum. Vote: All ayes

Code Enforcement Update – James Luster, CCOG

Prior to the meeting, Mr. Luster provided a list of “active cases” for the council’s review. This information was included in their agenda packet. Mr. Luster briefly went over each property on the Code Enforcement Report to update council on the status of compliance or non-compliance of the property owners, and the current condition of the properties. For several properties in

which communication has been an issue, staff agreed to try to help obtain additional ownership and/or contact information. MPT Bivens commented that it would greatly improve the appearance of the properties if the owners would keep the lots mowed and cleaned up. This would be an improvement even if they don't have funds to make major repairs. Mr. Luster stated that he communicates to the owners that they simply need to show progress. If they do so then the Town is willing to work with them. TM Thomas commented that yard maintenance would make other repair issues less conspicuous. Mayor Deese agreed, but also commented that Mr. Luster has to deal with safety and health issues. He thanked Mr. Luster for being at the meeting.

Call for Public Hearing RZA11-01 Text Change to amend sections 15, 146, and 181 of the Marshville Land Use Ordinance

TM Thomas informed council that the proposed text change to the Marshville Land Use Ordinance is in respect to regulating electronic gaming operations. It is necessary to hold a public hearing to make the proposed changes. TM Thomas commented that Diane Dil with CCOG did the research for this and it has been approved and recommended by the Marshville Planning Board. Staff suggests Monday, April 4, 2011 as the recommended date for the public hearing. Mayor Deese asked TM Thomas with regards to all the legislative issues surrounding this issue, if we are protected in doing this. TM Thomas replied that we need to do our due diligence to control where these establishments are located. A motion to set Monday, April 4, 2011 at 7:00 p.m., at the Marshville Community Center as the date to hold Public Hearing RZA11-01 Text Change to amend sections 15, 146, and 181 of the Marshville Land Use Ordinance was made by CM Bridget. The motion was seconded by CM Jefferson. Vote: All ayes

Consideration and approval of Resolution 2011-02 CSX Facility Encroachment Agreement

TM Thomas commented that bids open this Thursday at 1:00 p.m. for the Hwy. 74 E. Water Line Replacement Project. There will need to be a sub-grade crossing under the railroad on Stegall Road. This requires that we enter into a Facility Encroachment Agreement with CSX. A motion to approve the Resolution 2011-02 CSX Facility Encroachment Agreement, and further authorize the mayor to sign said agreement was made by CM Bridget. The motion was seconded by MPT Bivens. Vote: All ayes

Discussion regarding a Veterans' Day event

CM Matthew Jefferson volunteered to work on a Veterans' Day event for the Town of Marshville. He feels our memorial service can be improved upon. CM Jefferson presented the idea of acquiring a good speaker for the service. He also suggested the idea of having some National Guard equipment and other ideas to draw a crowd. CM Jefferson is interested in obtaining a list of Veterans from Marshville in order to send them a special invitation to the event. MPT Bivens mentioned a parade. CM Jefferson entertained the idea of purchasing small flags to be displayed in yards to promote patriotism. This could be a secondary festival for the Town of Marshville. CM Jefferson mentioned the date of November 11, 2011. He commented this festival idea could help the election turnout. Another idea CM Jefferson shared was to display stars at our Veterans' Memorial. He asked the council to be thinking about a speaker for the event. Mayor Deese suggested CM Jefferson speak with Ryan Stafford, who may be a source of information. Mayor Deese also suggested council keep in mind the date. The Boll

Weevil is in September, and the annual Christmas Parade in November. Another consideration needs to be the cost involved. CM Jefferson commented that he considered Memorial Day, but many folks are away for a long weekend.

Revised Charter Update

TM Thomas conveyed to council that bills have been introduced in both the House and the Senate regarding the Town of Marshville Charter update. This is a process and, hopefully, it will be completed within thirty to forty-five days.

2010 Census Report

TM Thomas referred council to the census report included in their agenda packet. He mentioned that, according to the state demographer's office, our population is approximately 3,100. According to this census report the total population is 2,402. He commented that he's inquiring into how to contest or appeal the numbers. He has become aware of one community that is contesting the results. TM Thomas commented that the results could have some bearing on our revenues going forward.

Comments

PD Alan Thifault commented that he's getting ready for the Easter Egg Hunt. He also is working on ideas for Summer Camp. He told council that baseball has begun and the park is busy.

DPW Steele commented that if complaints or concerns about water pressure were received on this past Friday, it was due to a water line problem. Public Works worked from approximately 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. making repairs.

Chief Matt Tarlton commented that a streetlight survey has just been completed and outages reported to Duke Power. He mentioned the upcoming food drive scheduled for Saturday, April 23, 2011 beginning at 10 am. Chief Tarlton informed council that the event would be advertised in WIXIE radio on April 21, 2011. The station will also be live on site for the food drive. Chief Tarlton would like to try to make this a community event. CM Bridget inquired if food contributions could be dropped off at the Police Dept. Chief Tarlton replied that they could. Also, TM Thomas mentioned that space could be made at Town Hall to accept food donations. CM Jefferson suggested advertising the food drive on the Town's marquee.

CM Jefferson mentioned that he and TM Thomas will be attending a NC Small Town Main Street Program workshop on April 5th. He informed council that Marshville is now registered in the program. He hopes this will help with economic development. CM Jefferson commented that he's received several request to bring back "Yard of the Month" in Marshville. Mayor Deese asked who chooses "Yard of the Month". MPT Bivens commented that in the past it was up to the Beautification Committee. The winner has a sign displayed in their yard. CM Jefferson suggested offering some type of prize. Mayor Deese suggested MPT Bivens contact members of the Beautification Committee to begin work to revive "Yard of the Month".

MPT Bivens commented that a school that has recently visited the park was very complimentary.

Clerk/FO Johnson apologized for erroneously omitting the “comment” and “adjourn” items from the agenda. She reminded council to sign off on their pay request for payroll before leaving the meeting. Clerk/FO Johnson informed council that the Minutes Book is now up to date and indexed. She will begin working on having the council meeting minutes microfilmed. The cost for microfilming is \$15 per reel, with a reel holding 2,400 letter-size pages. Clerk/FO Johnson also reported to council that she is working on compiling information and ideas for updating/improving the Town of Marshville’s website.


TM Thomas commented that April will be the six month milestone for Clerk/FO Tonya Johnson in a full-time capacity. He expressed appreciation for the job she is doing. TM Thomas reminded council that NCLM Town Hall day is scheduled for May 4th. This is typically an all day event. Also, NCLM Regional Meetings are scheduled in April. He plans to have a draft of the budget calendar at the next meeting with proposed budget work session dates for both staff and council. TM Thomas talked about some interesting legislation proposed in both the House and the Senate. The talk is of counties (and municipalities) taking over road maintenance responsibilities. He doesn’t know what kind of funds will come with that. There are also bills about ETJ zoning/annexation districts. TM Thomas encouraged council to read the bulletins from the NCLM, and newspaper articles. TM Thomas informed council that he is moving forward with the selection of a Police Chief. TM Thomas commented that tomorrow, Tuesday, March 22, 2011 marks his one year anniversary with the Town of Marshville. He expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to serve as Town Manager.

Mayor Deese reiterated the legislation regarding ETJ zoning/annexation issues. He commented that is how Marshville expanded. He also mentioned pending legislation regarding requiring a photo ID to vote. He expressed that serious thought should be given to this issue. Mayor Deese expressed his personal opinion that requiring a photo ID may hinder people from voting. He encouraged council to call our legislators and let them know how we feel.

Adjourn

There being no further comments, the meeting was adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

These minutes approved this the 4th day of April, 2011.


 Margaret Bivens
 Franklin D. Deese
 Mayor Pro Tem

Attest: 
 Tonya D. Johnson
 Clerk

**A brief recess may be called every 45-60 minutes, as desired by Council.*